

ATTY DOCKET NO. 250991US-2DIV

INVENTOR: Tsutomu SASKI, et al.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 19-49 are presently active in this case, with Claims 1-18 and 50-64 cancelled by the present preliminary amendment.

Claims 19-49 correspond to previously non-elected Species II, Figures 9-21, as identified in an Election requirement issued on April 22, 2003 in parent application Serial No. 10/188,818.

Accordingly, examination on the merits of Claims 19-49 is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 08/03)

Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599
Michael E. Monaco
Registration No. 52,041

I:\ATTY\MM\250991US\PRELIM AMENDMENT 26 MAR 04.DOC